

became a Brownie, and it is an experience she describes as sending a shy little girl through a "journey of self-confidence." It would be hard to count how many girls have benefitted from her leadership and example, but I can say that East Tennessee is a much better place because of Lucille Griffo's devotion to our youth.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Lucille Griffo on her recent retirement as CEO of the Tanasi Council Inc. in Knoxville, Tennessee and bring her remarkable career to the attention of my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD. I encourage everyone to get involved in Girl Scouting programs and help shape our next generation of youth. As Lucille would say, "We need Girl Scouting now more than ever."

AN ANNIVERSARY TO REMEMBER  
AND MOURN, AND NEVER REPEAT

### HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, thirty-five years ago, Turkey launched a massive and illegal military invasion of its sovereign neighbor, Cyprus.

On July 20, 1974, the Turkish government sent troops to Cyprus, allegedly in response to an effort to unify Cyprus with Greece, citing its interpretation of its rights as a "guarantor" nation to cloak its military invasion under the guise of "restoring the constitutional order" of Cyprus.

As a result of this invasion, over five thousand Greek Cypriots were killed, over sixteen hundred Greek Cypriots were reported missing, and two hundred thousand Greek Cypriots were forcibly displaced from their homes. Today, Cyprus remains a divided nation, and over forty-three thousand Turkish troops still illegally occupy almost half of the island.

Since the 1974 invasion, the international community has repeatedly condemned the Turkish invasion, and has called for the reunification of Cyprus and the final withdrawal of Turkish troops from the island. In fact, more than seventy-five resolutions have been adopted by the United Nations (UN) Security Council and more than thirteen by the UN General Assembly, calling for the return of Greek Cypriot refugees to their homes and properties.

Turkey has not heeded these calls.

To the contrary, over one hundred and sixty thousand settlers from Turkey now occupy the homes or property of Greek Cypriots evicted from northern Cyprus. These illegal settlers today outnumber the native Turkish Cypriots by almost two to one.

These thirty-five years of occupation in northern Cyprus have also led to the tragic devastation of hundreds of religious and cultural sites. On July 21, 2009, the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the Helsinki Commission, issued a report entitled, "Destruction of Cultural Property in the Northern Part of Cyprus and Violations of International Law," stating that icons, manuscripts, frescoes and mosaics have been looted from Greek Orthodox, Catholic, Armenian Orthodox, Maronite and Jewish religious sites in northern Cyprus.

The Helsinki Commission Report stated that, in the occupied north, over five hundred

Orthodox churches or chapels have been pillaged, demolished or vandalized. Additionally, seventy-seven churches have been turned into mosques, twenty-eight churches are being used by the Turkish military as hospitals or camps, and thirteen churches have been turned into barns. The historic St. Anastasia monastery is now a hotel with a swimming pool and casino; and the Byzantine-era monastery of Antiphonetes has had its icons and murals removed and sold to art dealers. The Helsinki Commission reported that, in contrast to those Turkish actions, the Republic of Cyprus has spent about \$600,000 since 2000 to renovate seventeen historic mosques in the southern portion of Cyprus.

I am cautiously encouraged by the efforts of President of Cyprus Dimitris Christofias and the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community in the north, Mr. Mehmet Talat in their reunification negotiations now being held under the auspices of the United Nations. They have now held more than thirty-five rounds of direct talks since negotiations began on September 3, 2008, and they continue to meet on a regular basis. It is clear that the reunification of Cyprus should be based on a bi-communal, bi-zonal federal state with a single sovereignty, international personality and citizenship.

Ultimately, any final solution to the division of Cyprus must be developed by the Cypriot people themselves. However, the Turkish government has yet to give the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community the necessary freedom to negotiate a solution, has not agreed to withdraw its troops, and has not publically announced its support for the reunification efforts. To the contrary, on July 20, 2009, the Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Cemil Cicek announced that Turkey will never abandon its rights as a "guarantor" power on Cyprus, even if a peace deal is signed between Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders later this year.

This is precisely the false premise with which Turkey justified its military invasion in 1974, and the echoes of this false justification will reverberate in the hearts of the people of Cyprus, who continue to live with the brutal consequences of the 1974 incarnation of this argument. The international community rejected this argument thirty-five years ago, and it must today condemn such statements as counterproductive to the reunification process.

It is time that we commemorate the last anniversary of the presence of Turkish troops on Cyprus. It is time the leaders of the Cypriot communities have full freedom to negotiate the reunification of their country, without pressure and imposed conditions from other nations. It is time for there to be a new generation of Cypriots born into a unified homeland.

### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the 2010 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill.

Requesting Member: JOHN M. SHIMKUS

Bill number: H.R. 3288

The Account: Surface Transportation Priorities—Edwards County Bone Gap Road  
Requesting Entity: Edwards County located at Edwards County Courthouse, Alboin IL 62806.

The funding will go towards the reconstruct Bone Gap Rd in Edwards County.

The Account: Transportation & Community & System Preservation—Harrisburg Missouri Street Hospital Access Project.

Requesting Entity: City of Harrisburg at 110 East Locust Harrisburg, IL 62946.

The funding will go towards construction of a secondary access route to Harrisburg Medical Center that was inaccessible during floods of 2008.

### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Mr. MCKEON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding Member priority requests I received as part of H.R. 3293, the "Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010."

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON

Bill Number: H.R. 3293, the "Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010"

Account: Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)—Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Victor Valley Community Hospital

Address of Requesting Entity: 15248 Eleventh Street, Victorville, CA 92395

Description of Request: I requested and received a Member priority request totaling \$250,000 to assist the Victor Valley Community Hospital with a modernization effort that includes the purchase of MRI Equipment, CT scan equipment, and Integration and Implementation, personnel, and training costs. Funding would also be used to provide advanced services such as arthritis care, behavioral health and counseling, community wellness programs, poison control, and senior health services.

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON

Bill Number: H.R. 3293, the "Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010"

Account: Department of Education, Higher Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: College of the Canyons

Address of Requesting Entity: 26455 Rockwell Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91355

Description of Request: I requested and received a Member priority request totaling \$100,000 to assist the College with the continuation of its University Center Consortium, a program to provide increased access to higher education and advanced training. The Consortium would use this funding to increase the